

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to return to the undersigned attorney an initialed copy of the Form PTO-1449 which is a part of the Information Disclosure Statement filed on May 8, 2001. Such an initialed copy will confirm that the Examiner has considered the listed reference.

Applicant has amended the specification to insert the headings suggested by the Examiner on pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action.

Applicant attaches, on a separate sheet numbered as page No. 7, a rewritten Abstract of the Disclosure containing "the proper language and format".

Applicant encloses a certified English translation of Applicant's French priority Application No. 00 00 535, thereby perfecting Applicant's claim for the foreign priority date of **January 17, 2000** which is earlier than the **September 14, 2000** effective date of Guyomard '268.

Since Guyomard '268 thus is **disqualified as a reference**, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and 103(a), since both rejections rely on the **disqualified** Guyomard '268 patent.

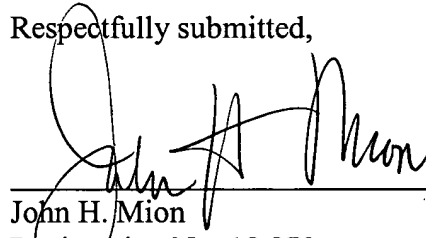
Applicant also respectfully requests the Examiner to acknowledge Applicant's claim for priority and receipt of the certified copy of the French priority application. The claim for priority was filed with the application on January 16, 2001 and the certified copy of the French priority application was filed on May 8, 2001.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. APPLN. NO. 09/759,223

Thus, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw all requirements and rejections, and to find the application to be in condition for allowance with all of claims 1-8; however, if the Examiner feels that the application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to **call the undersigned attorney** to discuss any unresolved issues and to expedite the disposition of the application.

Applicant hereby petitions for any extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this application, and any required fee for such extension is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE:

Attached hereto on a separate sheet (numbered as page "7") is a rewritten Abstract of the Disclosure.

IN THE TITLE:

Page 1, before the first paragraph, insert and center the following title:

**STRUCTURAL MEMBER COMPRISING A BODY AND REINFORCING RIBS AND
CORRESPONDING MOTOR VEHICLE**

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, between the newly inserted title and the first paragraph, insert and center:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION.

Page 1, between the third and fourth full paragraphs, insert and center

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION.

Page 2, between the fifth and sixth full paragraphs, insert and center

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS.

Page 2, between the tenth and eleventh full paragraphs, insert and center

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION.

Page 5, after the eighth full paragraphs, insert the following paragraph:

--What is claimed is:--.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

b1 A structural member (1) has a body (2) with a cavity (3), plastic reinforcing ribs (4) in the cavity (3), and structure (10, 12) for fixing the ribs (4) to the body. The fixing structure includes discrete regions (12), set back from at least one outer edge (11) of the body (2), and blocks (10) that are part of the same moulding as the ribs (4). The blocks (10) envelop the outer edge (11) in its set-back regions (12).
